## In The Claims:

This list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as set forth below.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A method for communicating between a first device and a second device over a path, the path being a single twisted wire pair, the first device and the second device each including a transmit port and a receive port, each of the transmit ports being a 10BaseT transmit port, each of their receive ports being a 10BaseT receive port, the method comprising:

applying a first set of signals from the transmit port of the first device onto the path through a connection to a first end of the past;

receiving the first set of signals at the receive port of the second device through a connection to a second end of the path;

first monitoring of a presence of the first set of signals conducting towards the end of the receive port of the second device; and

switching the second end of the path from the receive port to the transmit port of the second device disconnecting the receive port of the second device from the second end of the path, and connecting the transmit port of the second device to the second end of the path when said first the-monitoring of the presence of the first set of signals does not detect the first set of signals.

applying a second set of signals from the transmit port of the second device onto the path through a connection to the second end up the path;

receiving the second set of signals at the receive port of the first device through a connection to the first end of the path;

second monitoring of a presence of the second set of signals conducting towards the receive port of the first device; and

preventing signals from reaching the receive port of the first device and amplifying signals flowing from the transmit port of the first device when said second ~~the~~ monitoring of the presence of the second set of signals does not detect the second set of signals.

providing a high impedance to signals above voiceband flowing from the path to a point removed from the path while allowing voiceband signals to pass and be converted to sound.

providing a high impedance to signals within the telephone voiceband transmitting from the path to the receive port of the first device.

deriving power for said first monitoring and said switching through a connection to the second end of the path, wherein said power is made available by applying power through a connection to the first end of the path at frequencies that are above the telephone voiceband and below the lowest frequency of the first set of signals.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 further including transmitting the first set of signals during a first set of intervals and transmitting the second set of signals during a second set of intervals, wherein said first set of intervals and said second set of intervals are substantially non-overlapping.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 further including amplifying of the first set of signals after the first set of signals emerge from the transmit port of the first device and before the first set of signals are transmitted onto the path.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 further including amplifying the second set of signals after the second set of signals pass the first end of the path and before the second set of signals are received by the receive port of the first device.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein said first set of signals conform to the Ethernet standard.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein said second set of signals conform to the Ethernet standard.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein said first set of signals conform to the 10BaseT Ethernet standard.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 where an Ethernet IFG

(interframe gap) used by the first device is different than the Ethernet IFG used by the second device.